Because of the important role this committee will play, I want to introduce you to its members. The regulations actually prescribe certain member slots. So, here we are:

- Katherine Babson I am filling the position of a member of the Board of Selectmen. I'm the only "townie" on the Committee, having grown up in town and graduated from the Wellesley Public Schools. I bring broad experience to this Committee from 35 years participation in Town government and civic affairs and am a former Town Moderator and Advisory Committee Chair.
- Town Administration position filled by Hans Larsen, the Town's Executive Director, whom you all have seen in action.
- A member of the School Committee: Suzy Littlefield who has been the School
 Committee's lead person on the Middle School renovation project and who brings
 a wealth of practical, and some painfully accumulated, experience. Suzy is also
 a former Advisory Committee member.
- Local official responsible for building maintenance: John Donahue, the recently hired Facilities Director of the Town, who has just been through a crash course on the maintenance issues of the High School and who will be responsible for all town buildings in the future. John is the former Manager of Physical Plants for the Massachusetts Convention Center.
- Permanent Building Committee member and Staff: Kathy Mullaney, the staff to
 the PBC for the past 10 years and former Advisory Committee member. Steve
 Gagosian, a member of the PBC, is an architect with strong historical
 preservation credentials, a licensed general contractor and a professional
 arbitrator. Steve is a former member of the National Preservation Trust and
 renovated the First Parish Church in Concord where President Ford gave his
 Bicentennial Address.
- School Principal: Andrew Keough, the new High School principal, comes with extensive experience with new and renovated school building projects.
- Superintendent and Knowledge of the Education Mission and Function: Bella
 Wong. Bella has been the lead administrator contact for all of the school
 building projects (Sprague, Bates, Pre-School Modulars, Elementary Modulars
 and Wellesley Middle School).
- Advisory Committee Member: Rusty Kellogg, a former accountant, CFO and small business owner and a member of Advisory's Schools Subcommittee.

And then three members to whom, along with Steve Gagosian, I fondly refer as "our professionals":

- Cynthia Westerman is an abutter to the high school on the Seaver Street side.
 She has 18 years experience as an independent project manager for private school building projects (secondary school and higher education). She is also a former member of the Facilities Advisory and the Program Review Committees.
- Tom Goemaat, CEO of Shawmut Design and Construction, which has
 performed major projects for educational institutions throughout New England.
 Tom has worked in the construction industry for 30 years. Tom also served on
 the Facilities Advisory and the Program Review Committees.
- Steve Baker is an abutter on the Rice Street side. He is the president of his own architectural firm that has designed academic facilities at the university level throughout the country, including at Harvard Business School, BC, Stanford and Dartmouth.

We believe that the members of this committee represent a solid cross section of the community and have the appropriate experience to lead the effort on this project. Even before the regulations were issued, we recognized that the size and complexity of our High School project would require active and sustained support from multiple Boards and constituencies. Rather than being simply a "School" project, it is a "Town" project. To this end, we recognized the need to find an effective way to harness together those multiple Boards and constituencies, and build on the excellent work already done by the School Committee, and the Facilities Advisory and Program Review Committees. Perhaps not so coincidentally, the MSBA regulations require a similarly broad, collaborative effort. Thus, the broad membership of the SBC.